

## BRIDGNORTH RURAL DISTRICT

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, for the year, 1943.

HEALTH  
30CT1944  
37

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present the Annual Report on the Health of the District for the year ending December 31st, 1943.

Public Health Offices of the Authority.

Medical Officer of Health.

L. Dickson, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., (Part time.)

Public Analyst.

Mr. H. Lowe, Chester.

Sanitary Inspector.

Mr. D. C. Younger, M.R.S.I.

## Sec. A.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area in Acres.	101,040.
Registrar General's Estimate of the resident population (mid year 1943)	12,500.
Number of inhabited houses at 31st Dec. 1943, according to rate books.	3,422.
Rateable value.	£49,781.
Sum represented by a 1d. rate.	£218.11.1.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births. Total. M. F.	
Legitimate. 201. 97.104.)	Birth rate per 1,000
Illegitimate. 11. 7. 4.)	of estimated population. 16.9.
still Births. 11. 7. 4.	Rate per 1,000 live and still births. 49.0
Deaths. 127. 65. 62.	Death rate per 1,000 estimated population. 10.1

## Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis.	1. Rate per 1,000 total
No. 30. Other Puerperal Causes.	1. live & still births. 4.4

## Death rate of infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births.	47.1
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	44.7
Illegitimate " " illegitimate " "	90.9

## Deaths from Cancer (all ages).

22.

" Measles " " 0.

0.

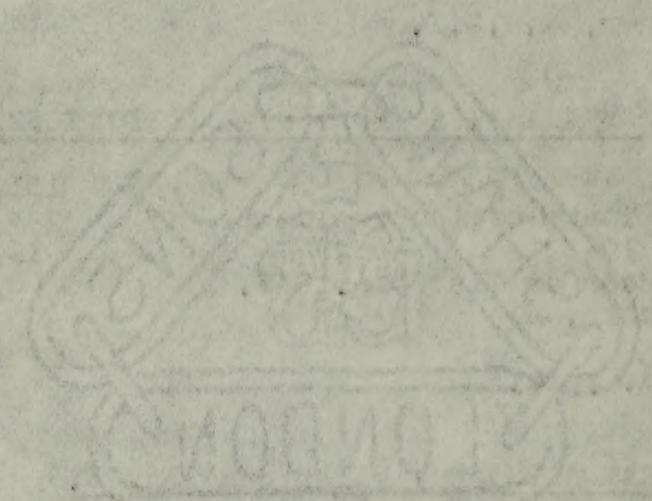
" Whooping Cough (all ages). 1.

1.

" Diarrhoea (under 2 years). 0.

0.

Improvement in the drinking purposes. Possibly if the water is carefully protected from the entrance of surface water an improvement will be obtained.



1800

1800

Sec. B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers - see above.

- a. Laboratory Facilities. There has been no change.
- b. Ambulance Facilities. There is no ambulance owned by the Local Authority. Bridgnorth Borough Ambulance is largely used for all class of cases.
- c. Nursing in the Home. There has been no change.
- d. Treatment Centres and Clinics. The County Health Department is responsible for these, which are carried on at the Bridgnorth Welfare Centre and are as follows:-

	Days.	Hours.
School Clinic	Daily.	10.30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Infant Welfare,	Weekly. Mondays.	11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
and Ante-natal.		
Tuberculosis.	The last Tuesday in each month.	11 a.m.

Dr. T.R.Elliott, Tuberculosis Medical Officer attends. Cases needing X-Ray examination attend at Shrewsbury by arrangement with Dr. Elliott.

Venereal Diseases. There are Centres at 1, Belmont, Shrewsbury. Tues. & Fri. 6-8 p.m. Males.

Mon. & Wed. 2-4 p.m. Females.

Wolverhampton. Each morning 10 a.m. Males.  
" " " Females.  
(Tues. Fri.) Sat. (5 p.m.) 2 p.m. Males.

Tues. Thurs. Females.  
2 p.m. 5 p.m.

Orthopaedic. A nurse attends at the Centre once a fortnight on Mondays and a surgeon once in three months.

- e. Hospitals. There are none situated in the area. Cases of infectious diseases needing isolation are admitted by arrangement either to Bridgnorth Isolation Hospital or Monkmoor Isolation Hospital, Shrewsbury.

Sec. C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

A report by your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Younger is appended.  
Bacteriological and Chemical examinations of water supplies.

Spring in the New Meadow, Weston Farm, Monkpton.

In the certificate of analysis (bacteriological) of a sample of water from this source it is stated - Improvement in the bacteriological quality is desirable before this water is used for drinking purposes. Possibly if the spring is carefully protected from the entrance of surface water an improvement will be obtained."



## HOUSING.

### Sec.D. Houses for Agricultural workers.

Sixteen houses for agricultural workers are to be built in groups of four each on the following sites:-  
Kinlet, Stottesdon, Monkþopton and Weston.

### Post-War Programme.

A post-war Programme of 80 houses for the whole district has been approved.

No new houses were completed during the year.

Ministry of Health Circular 2871, 1943. This deals with the question of making labour and materials available for carrying out essential work and repairs to house property.

Circular 2845, 1943. This gives power, under certain conditions, to Local Authorities to requisition unoccupied houses for families inadequately housed.

### Sec.E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

There has been no change in the arrangement whereby slaughtering is carried out in Wimborne and meat for this area distributed through Bridgwater.

A list of food condemned as unfit for human consumption is given in your Sanitary Inspector's report.

MILK SUPPLY. The Government White Paper of July 1943, contains proposals for the transference of some duties of Local Authorities to the Ministry of Agricultural and Fisheries and for the improvement of milk supplies by raising the standard of health of all dairy herds and the more extensive use of heat treatment of milk.

### Diseases.

	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospitals.	Total Deaths.
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Scarlet Fever,  
Diphtheria,  
Measles Fever,  
Poliomyelitis,  
Hibernal Fever, Typhus,  
Typhoid Fever,  
Dysentery,  
Whooping Cough.

3.



PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND  
OTHER DISEASES.

Measles was prevalent in the Astley Abbotts and Alveley Parishes.

In the second quarter of the year there was an epidemic of whooping cough in Highley.

DIPHTHERIA.

Three cases of this disease were notified, one of which on further investigation proved not to be diphtheria. The other two were in school children. One had received a full course of immunisation and the other only one injection. Both were very mild cases.

Statistics for the year.

Number of children who completed the full course in the Authority's area, between Jan 1st, & Dec. 31, 1945.	Under 5 years.	Between 5 & 15 years.	Total.
	165.	255.	420.
Approximate estimated child population at 31 Dec. 1945.	977.	2015.	
Percentage of the child population considered immunised at 31st Dec. 1945.	57%	94%	

There were two outbreaks of scarlet fever in May, mainly non-civilian, and in October amongst the civilian population. No deaths were recorded, in the civilian population.

Two children contracted typhoid fever and were removed to an Isolation Hospital. A prisoner of war who was then living and working on the farm at which they live was found to be a carrier of the disease. As no other source of this disease was discovered it is practically certain that they contracted the disease from him.

I am indebted to Dr. Gregory, M.O.H. for Ludlow for kindly helping in the discovery of the varrier.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1945.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever.	88.	72.	0
Diphtheria.	5.	-	0
Enteric Fever.	2.	2.	0
Pneumonia.	46.	38.	3.
Puerperal Fever, Pyrexia.	5.	0	1.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	1.	1.	0.
Cerebrospinal Fever	1.	1.	0.
Erysipelas.	2.	0	0
Measles.	88.	2.	0
Whooping Cough.	125.	0.	0



TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1943.

Age Group.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-resp.		Respiratory.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 year.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.
5 "	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15 "	3	6	1	-	-	-	2	-
25 "	3	2	-	-	-	-	1	-
35 "	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
45 "	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 "	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
& upwards.								
Totals.	8.	8.	1.	2.	-	4.	-	1.

DEATHS FROM CANCER.

Age Group.	Deaths.
35 years.	2
45 "	3
55 "	5
65 " and upwards.	12.
<u>Totals.</u>	

I have the honour to be

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen.

Your obedient Servant,

(signed) L.E. Dickson.



BRIDGNORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

SANITARY OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING

31st DECEMBER, 1943.

Complaints.

Forty seven complaints were received during the year of a widely different nature. All were investigated and appropriate action taken, particularly in matters affecting public health.

Water Supplies.

During the year repairs have been carried out to five public wells and five private wells so as to keep the supply to normal and prevent contamination.

Water Analysis.

Six bacteriological and five chemical samples were taken during the year. The chemical samples were all reported to be satisfactory. Five bacteriological samples were not satisfactory and one was satisfactory.

Disinfection.

The number of places disinfected during the year after being occupied by patients suffering from infectious disease were - 30.

Food Inspection.

The following articles of food were condemned on inspection as being unfit for human consumption.-

6 lbs of Pork Meat.	42 lbs of Bacon.
2½ tins of Pork Meat.	2 lbs of Salmon.
2 tins of Condensed Milk.	4 tins of Luncheon meat.
1 tin of Sweetened Milk.	2½ tins of Chopped Ham.
1 tin of Carrots.	7½ tins of Corned Beef.
1 tin of prepared Meat	6 tins of Salmon.
2 tins of Cooked Ham.	6 tins of Apricot pulp.
2 tins of Luncheon Meat.	4 cases of Apricot pulp.
9 lbs of Butter.	4 tins of Apricot
6 lbs of Luncheon Meat.	
5 one gallon jars of Pickles.	5 tins of Apricot Pulp
5 lbs of Pineapple.	48 tins of corned Beef.
5 lbs of Tomatoes.	1 tin of Pork Sausage.
50 lbs of Pork Sausages.	2 tins of Luncheon Meat.
1 tin of Luncheon Meat.	4 lbs of Butter.
2 tins of Peas.	12 lbs of Cheese.

House Scavenging.

During the year several offensive accumulations of various kinds have been found in different parts of the district and have been satisfactorily dealt with by the respective owners.

The scavenging of the village of Highley which is under the supervision of the Highley Mining Company has been carried out satisfactorily, and all complaints which I have received have been attended to promptly by the Company's representative.



The scavenging scheme for the Council Houses, Highley continues to give satisfaction and no serious complaints have been received.

#### Swimming Pools.

There are two Swimming Pools in the district, one at the Nautical William Alveley and the other at Mrs. Gray's Swancote, Bridgnorth. Periodical inspections are made of these places during the year, and although large numbers are using the pools, no complaints have been received.

#### Dairies and Cowsheds.

There are 232 cowsheds and dairies on the register at the present time, and the number of Accredited milk producers is 31.

#### Workshops and Workplaces.

No complaints have been received from these places during the year. The necessary cleansing and limewashing have been carried out and the sanitary accommodation has been found satisfactory.

#### Housing.

Total number of houses inspected for housing defects during the year (under the Public Health or Housing Acts) - 240.

Number of inspections made for the purpose - 270.

Yours obediently,

(signed) D.C. Younger.

Cert. M.R.San.I., M.R.S.I.S., M.S.I.A.

Certified Food & Meat Inspector.

